Relief Committee (NCRC) will be held without delay to consider the report of the Central Team which visited the affected areas.

(b) and (c) The NCRC considered the report of the Central Team on Madhya Pradesh earthquake on June 20, 1997. On the basis of the decision of the Committee, Rs. 45.26 crores was released to the State Government from the National Fund for Calamity Relief and Rs. 10.10 crores as advance of the fourth instalment of the Central share of Calamity Relief Fund on 26.6.1997.

Use of Lactose

3151. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether lactose is being used in the production of homoeopathic medicines;

(b) if so, the names of the countries from where the lactose has been imported; and

(c) the quantity of lactose proposed to be imported from each country during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) To the extent information is available details are given below:

Sl.No.	Item	Country from which imported
1.	Lactose USP	Newzealand, Singapore, Holland, Germany, Canada.
2.	Lactose USP Direct Tableting (Pharmatose).	Holland, Germany.
3.	Lactose USP (Maltose)	Japan

(c) Lactose is under Open General Licence (OGL) as per the EXIM Policy, 1997-2002 and the firms are free to import their requirements from any country.

[English]

Price of Medicines

3152. SHRI CHANDRABHUSHAN SINGH : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the price of Rifampicin has increased despite of giving exemption from excise duty in the budget for 1990-91;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government propose to give subsidy to anti-T.B. and Leprosy drugs;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. There has been a marginal increase in the prices of formulations based on bulk drug Rifampicin during the period 1990-91 and 1995-96. This increase can be attributed to the fact that the price of bulk drug Rifampicin went up from Rs. 3850 per Kg. in 1991 to Rs. 5220 per Kg. in 1995. Government notified the increase in the price on the basis of a cost-cum-technical study which took into consideration the increase in prices of imported inputs on account of exchange rate variation, imposition of customs duty on imported intermediates etc. Moreover, excise duty on Rifampicin has also been re-introduced.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Under the National Tuberculosis Control Programme, anti-TB drugs are supplied free of cost to the TB patients through Government Health Facilities. World Health Organisation (WHO) also supplies Rifampicin, free of cost for the treatment of Leprosy.

Export of Meat

3153. SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the slaughter houses/factories/ industries engaged in the export of meat alongwith their maximum capacity; and

(b) the policy of the Government about the export of meat to various countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) The details of meat processing facilities approved by Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) are furnished in the Statement attached.

(b) The policy of Government of India for export of meat to various countries is as per the current Export-Import Policy under which export of beef (meat of cow and its progeny) is prohibited. However, export of meat of the buffalo (both male and female), goat and sheep is allowed subject to the conditions specified in the EXIM Policy.

Statement

List of Meat Processing Facilities Approved by APEDA for Export of Meat

		Capacity Per Day (MT)	
		Chilled Meat	Frozen Meat
1	2	3	4
1.	Frigorifico Allana Ltd., Aurangabad.	240	108
2.	Allana Cold Storage Ltd., Bombay	390	157
3.	Frigorifico Conserva Allana Ltd., Zahirabad	420	171
4.	Anjanya Cold Storage Ltd., Usgao	90	35
5.	Frigorifico Allana Ltd., Ghaziabad	420	166
6.	Al-Kabeer Exports Ltd., Rudraram	360	135
7.	Arabian Export Ltd., Koregaon	75	40
8.	Arabian Exports Ltd., Taloja	110	50
9	Arabian Export Ltd., New Delhi	110	50
10.	Hind Industries Ltd., Ghaziabad	150	75
11.	Hind Industries Ltd., Thane	30	30
12	Hind Industries Ltd., Aligarh	5	—
13.	MKR Frozen Food Exports Pvt. Ltd., Nanded.	60	30
14.	MKR Frozen Food Exports Pvt. Ltd., Ghaziabad	50	44
15.	M.K. Overseas Pvt. Ltd., Ghaziabad.	95	37
16.	M.K. Exports Ltd., Greater Noida	10	—
17.	I. Ahmed and Co., New Bombay	105	85
18.	Allied Exports, New Bombay	25	76

1	2	3	4
19.	Al-Nafeez Frozen Food Exports, Ghaziabad.	30	31
20.	Fair Exports (India) Pvt. Ltd., Ghaziabad.	25	22
21.	Al-Noor Exports/Miki Exports, Meerut	40	19
22.	Al-shadab Exports/Wibro Frozen Food Exports, Meerut	50	68
23.	Premraj Cold Storage Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi.	28	10
24.	Agro Foods, New Delhi.	15	4
25.	Fakhry Exports Pvt. Ltd., Ghaziabad	15	10
26.	Darshan Frozen Food Exports, Delhi.	20	17
27.	Anna Associate Pvt. Ltd., Ghaziabad.	10	—
28.	HMG Industries Ltd., New Bombay.	21.5	35
29.	Punjab Meats Ltd., Derabassi.	100	100
30.	Hind Agro Industries Ltd., Aligarh.	204	180
31.	Allana Invest, New Bombay.	200	115

[Translation]

Loss Due to Earthquake

3154. SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the places where earthquake has struck the country during the last three years and the loss of life and property suffered therein alongwith the locations thereof;

(b) whether the Government have formulated any action plan to check the recurrance of earthquake in the country and to compensate the losses suffered therefrom;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the funds allocated by the Union Government for compensating the losses suffered from the earthquake in Madhya Pradesh during 1996-97 and 1997-98 till June, 1997?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) According to information received from the India Meteorological Department, 232 tremors of magnitude more than 4.0 in the Richter scale occurred during 1994, 156 in 1995 and 347 in 1996 in and around the country. The State Governments have not reported any significant damage or loss of lives due to earthquakes during these years. However, the earthquake of magnitude 6.0 in the Richter scale on 22nd May, 1997 affected Jabalpur and adjoining areas causing loss of 39 human lives and damage to about 1.66 lakh houses.

(b) and (c) There is no proven methodology for preventing occurrence of earthquakes. A National Contingent